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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending October 10, 2004, rainfall in the midsection of the state slowed harvest but benefitted fall seeded wheat, pastures, and forage crops, according to USDA’s Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Effects of the previous week’s freeze and this week’s warmer temperatures aided in drying down corn in the field. Producer activities also included fall wheat seeding and harvesting alfalfa.

Weather Summary: Temperatures for the week averaged from 2 degrees below normals to 4 degrees above normals. Precipitation was virtually statewide, but generally light, with amounts ranging to over 1 inch in portions of the central and south central.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending October 10, 2004				
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	13	10	29	26
Short	22	22	38	34
Adequate	64	67	33	39
Surplus	1	1	0	1
Subsoil				
Very Short	35	33	45	40
Short	28	32	41	32
Adequate	36	35	14	28
Surplus	1	0	0	0
Days Suitable	5.0	5.0	6.6	6.1

Field Crops Report: Corn condition rated 4 percent very poor, 5 poor, 17 fair, 52 good, and 22 excellent, above last year and average. Irrigated fields rated 80 percent good and excellent while dryland fields rated 65. This compares to 76 and 16, respectively, a year ago. Eighty-four percent of the fields were considered mature, behind last year at 91 and average at 96. Harvest was 19 percent complete, a few days behind last year at 27 and a week and a half behind average at 36.

Soybeans condition rated 4 percent very poor, 9 poor, 25 fair, 48 good, and 14 excellent, above last year and average. Plants had dropped leaves on 98 percent of the acreage, ahead of last year at 97 percent and the same as average. Harvest was 63 percent complete, ahead of last year at 59 and average at 58.

Sorghum condition rated 4 percent very poor, 10 poor, 42 fair, 38 good, and 6 excellent, above last year and average. Seventy-six percent of the acreage was mature, behind last year at 88 and average at 92. Harvest was 14 percent complete, behind last year at 28 and average at 38.

Dry bean conditions rated 5 percent very poor, 16 poor, 28 fair, 42 good, and 9 excellent. Ninety-three percent had dropped

leaves, behind last year and average at 97. Fifty-one percent were harvested, well behind last year and average at 90.

Proso millet harvest progressed to 62 percent complete, behind last year at 89.

Wheat seeding moved ahead to 91 percent planted, behind last year and average at 95. Seventy-one percent had emerged, behind last year at 79 and average at 76.

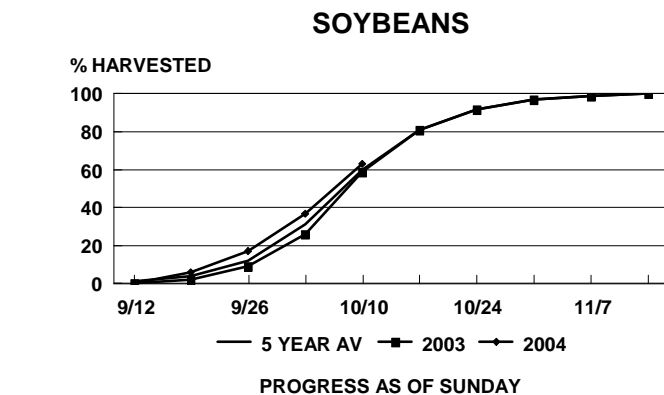
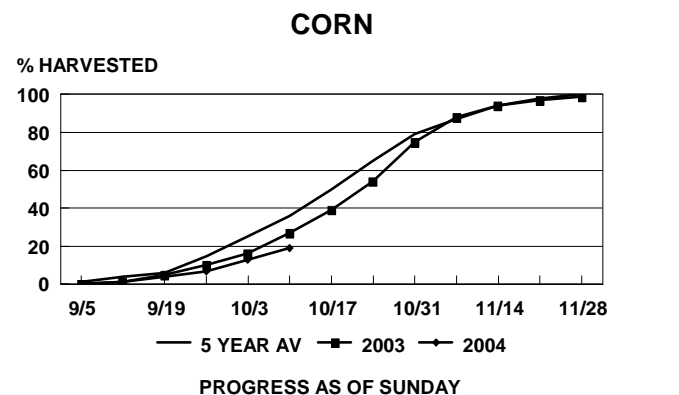
Alfalfa conditions rated 14 percent very poor, 17 poor, 27 fair, 36 good, and 6 excellent, above last year and average. Fourth cutting activities were 78 percent harvested, behind last year at 90 and average at 88.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending October 10, 2004				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 4 th Cutting	78	72	90	88
Corn Mature	84	71	91	96
Corn Harvested	19	13	27	36
Sorghum Mature	76	58	88	92
Sorghum Harvested	14	9	28	38
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	98	95	97	98
Soybeans Harvested	63	37	59	58
Wheat Seeded	91	85	95	95
Wheat Emerged	71	57	79	76

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending October 10, 2004					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	14	17	27	36	6
Corn	4	5	17	52	22
Sorghum	4	10	42	38	6
Soybeans	4	9	25	48	14

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition rated 19 percent very poor, 23 poor, 32 fair, 25 good, and 1 excellent, above a year ago and average. Some producers were providing supplemental feed while waiting for stalk fields to become available.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm. For those receiving an e-mail text version of this publication, a complete version including crop progress charts and precipitation maps can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/2004.htm>.



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Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week 1	.14	.11	.31	.63	.23	.65	.82	.16
Total since April 1	14.19	18.22	20.76	19.34	18.07	19.50	19.32	19.34
Normal since April 1	13.33	17.06	19.94	18.82	21.82	15.96	18.62	22.91
Total as % of normal	106%	107%	104%	103%	82%	122%	104%	84%

Temperature, By Location, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, October 10, 2004

Station		Temperature			
		Extremes		Average	Departure
		High	Low		
NW	Alliance	79	35	55	+4
	Scottsbluff	81	34	56	+4
	Sidney	76	38	55	+3
NC	Ainsworth	75	33	57	+3
	Arthur	78	36	56	+2
	O'Neill	73	33	55	0
NE	Concord	73	32	54	-2
	Elgin	72	33	55	0
	West Point	75	35	55	-2
C	Grand Island	73	37	55	0
	Lexington	74	40	57	+2
	Ord	73	34	54	-1
EC	Lincoln	76	38	59	+1
	Central City	74	35	56	0
	Mead	76	35	56	-2
SW	Champion	79	36	57	+3
	North Platte	79	34	57	+2
	Curtis	77	37	57	+2
SC	Smithfield	72	39	56	+1
	Minden	73	38	56	+1
	Red Cloud	74	38	57	+2
SE	Beatrice	78	34	58	0
	Clay Center	73	36	56	0
	Nemaha	79	40	61	+3

Source: High Plains Climate Center.

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